

Maine Revised Statutes

Title 12: CONSERVATION

Chapter 925: FISH AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AND RESEARCH

§12763. USE OR POSSESSION OF GILL NET; PENOBSCOT NATION RESEARCH; DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL

1. Prohibition.

[2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF); 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF); 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §307 (RP) .]

2. Penobscot Nation research. Under the direction of its director, the staff of the Department of Natural Resources of the Penobscot Nation may use gill nets for the purpose of scientific fisheries research and management on any waters within, flowing through or adjacent to Penobscot Indian territory as defined in Title 30, section 6205, subsection 2.

A. The authority granted under this subsection is subject to the following constraints.

(1) Both ends of the gill net must be marked with buoys that are clearly visible from a distance of 300 feet and that identify the Department of Natural Resources of the Penobscot Nation as the owner of the net.

(2) The results of each netting must be forwarded on a weekly basis to the office of the commissioner where the results must be available for public inspection. [2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF); 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §307 (AMD); 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF) .]

B. The following penalties apply to violations of paragraph A.

(1) A person who violates paragraph A commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 may be adjudged.

(2) A person who violates paragraph A after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime. [2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §307 (NEW); 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF) .]

[2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF); 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §307 (AMD); 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF) .]

3. Use of gill nets by department personnel. Department personnel and persons under contract with the department may use gill nets pursuant to this subsection. When requested by another agency to undertake a gill netting project, the department must be reimbursed by that agency for all costs relating to the gill netting project.

A. Department personnel and persons under contract with the department may not use gill nets in inland waters unless:

(2) Both ends of the net are marked with buoys that are clearly visible from a distance of 300 feet and that identify the department; and

(3) The results of each netting are forwarded on a weekly basis to the office of the commissioner. The records of the results must be available for public inspection at the office of the commissioner.

A person under contract with the department may not use a gill net under this section unless the use is at the direction of and under the supervision of the commissioner or the commissioner's designee. [2011, c. 533, §6 (AMD).]

A-1. The following penalties apply to violations of paragraph A.

(1) A person who violates paragraph A commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 may be adjudged.

(2) A person who violates paragraph A after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime. [2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §307 (NEW); 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

B. [2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF); 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF); 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §307 (RP).]

C. [2007, c. 651, §13 (RP).]

[2011, c. 533, §6 (AMD) .]

4. Permits allowing use of gill nets by federal agencies or other state agencies. The department may authorize the use of gill nets by federal agencies or other state agencies for purposes of scientific research or public safety projects. Any authorization by the department for a federal agency or another state agency to utilize gill nets must be given through written permit.

A. The authority granted to the department under this subsection is subject to the following constraints.

(2) Both ends of the gill net must be marked with buoys that are clearly visible from a distance of 300 feet and that identify the state or federal agency responsible for setting the net.

(3) The results of each netting must be forwarded on a weekly basis to the department, and the records of the results must be available for public inspection at the department. [2005, c. 477, §22 (AMD).]

B. The following penalties apply to violations of paragraph A.

(1) A person who violates paragraph A commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 may be adjudged.

(2) A person who violates paragraph A after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime. [2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §307 (NEW); 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

[2005, c. 477, §22 (AMD) .]

SECTION HISTORY

2003, c. 414, §A2 (NEW). 2003, c. 414, §D7 (AFF). 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF). 2003, c. 655, §B307 (AMD). 2003, c. 655, §B422 (AFF). 2005, c. 477, §22 (AMD). 2007, c. 651, §13 (AMD). 2011, c. 533, §6 (AMD).

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